

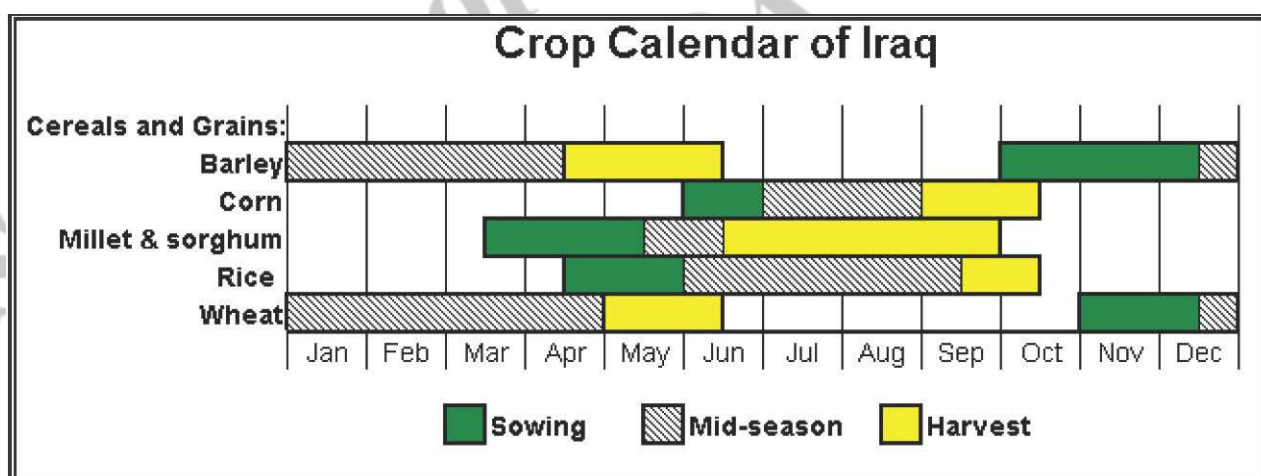
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August Report – Week 3

Aug. 22nd, 2008

1. Production for MY 2008/09 winter grains is forecasted to be lower than the previous year. Production decreases are related to late rainfall during the start of season combined with below normal seasonal precipitation. The predominantly rainfed northern governorates were impacted the most with lower production also expected in central and southern governorates.
2. Comparative image analysis of the 2008 summer crop showed that crop abundance has remained relatively similar to the 6-year average with geospecific areas of increase and decrease. The governorates impacted the most by drought and characterized by low crop production are Diyala, Salah ad Din, Al Anbar, and Baghdad (Figure 1). The governorate most adversely affected is Diyala, with major decreases in summer crop and rice production (Figure 2).
3. Within-season NDVI change detection analysis showed that the rice crop had significantly progressed in the regions of An Najaf and Al Qadisiyah (Figures 3 & 4). The approximate planted area as of August 10th, 2008 is 58,000 hectares.



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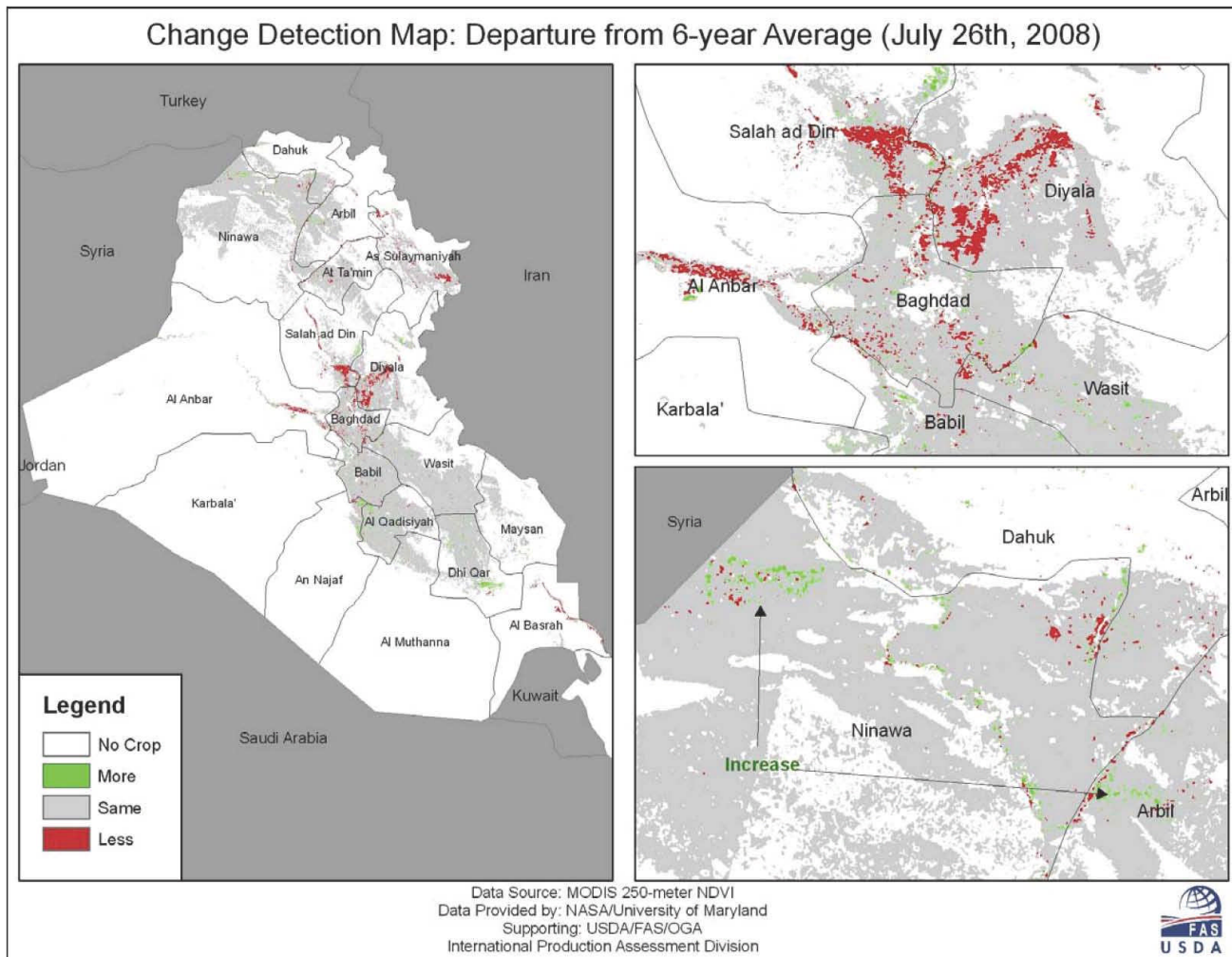


Figure 1: Departure from 6-year average change detection map: MODIS 250-meter NDVI (July 26th, 2008).

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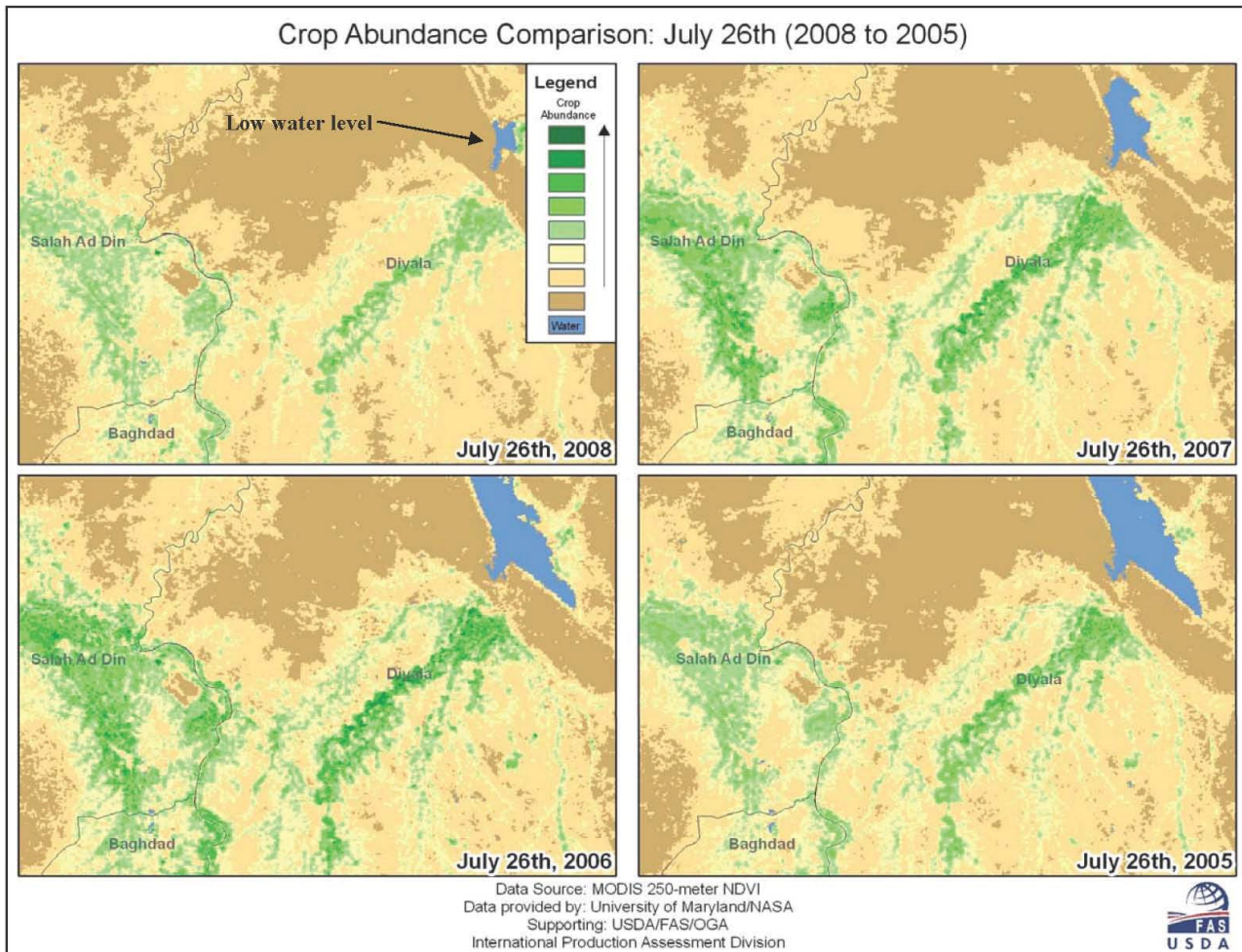


Figure 2: Diyala crop abundance map comparison: July 26th, 2005 to 2008.

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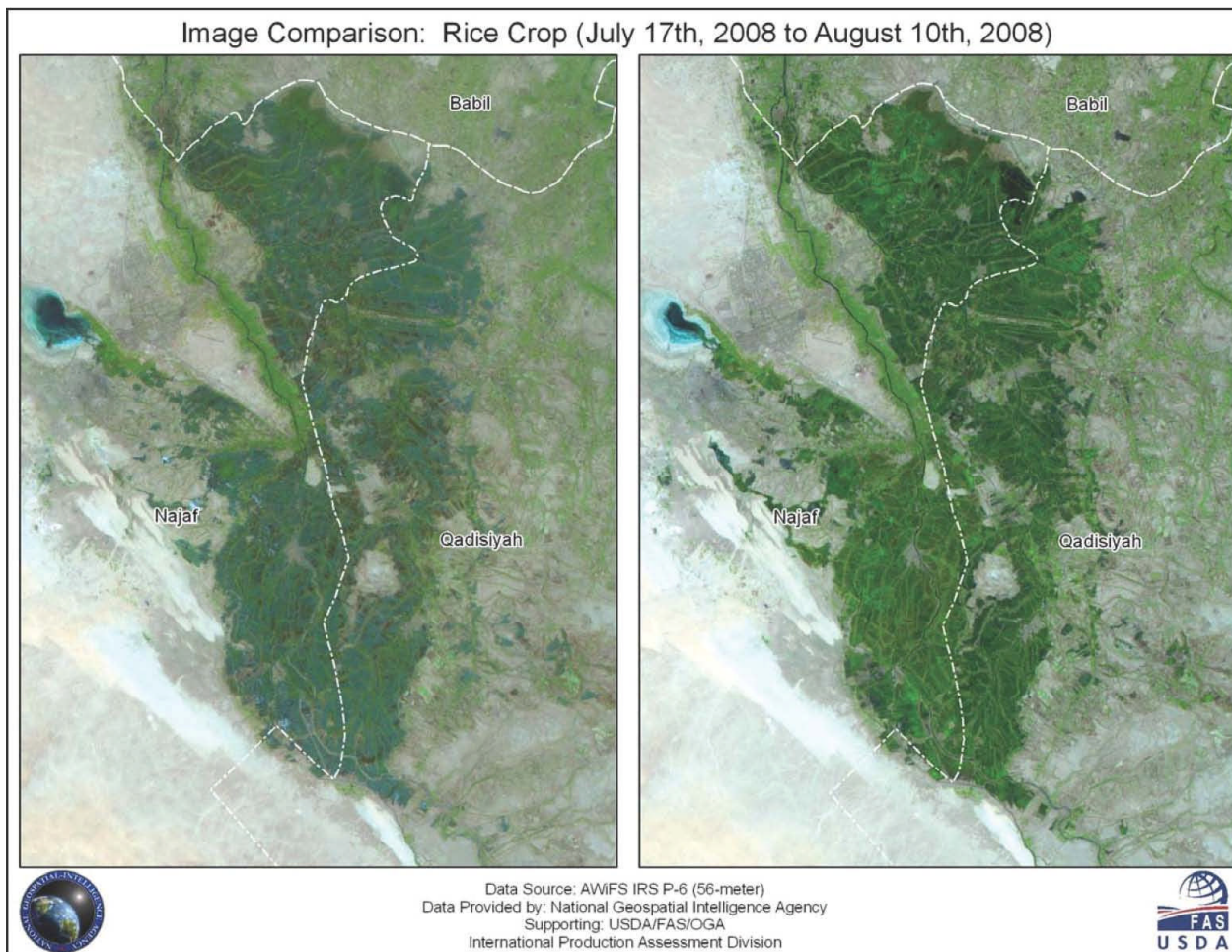


Figure 3: AWiFS image comparison acquired over rice production areas of An Najaf and Al Qadisiyah, July 10th, 2008 and August 10th, 2008.

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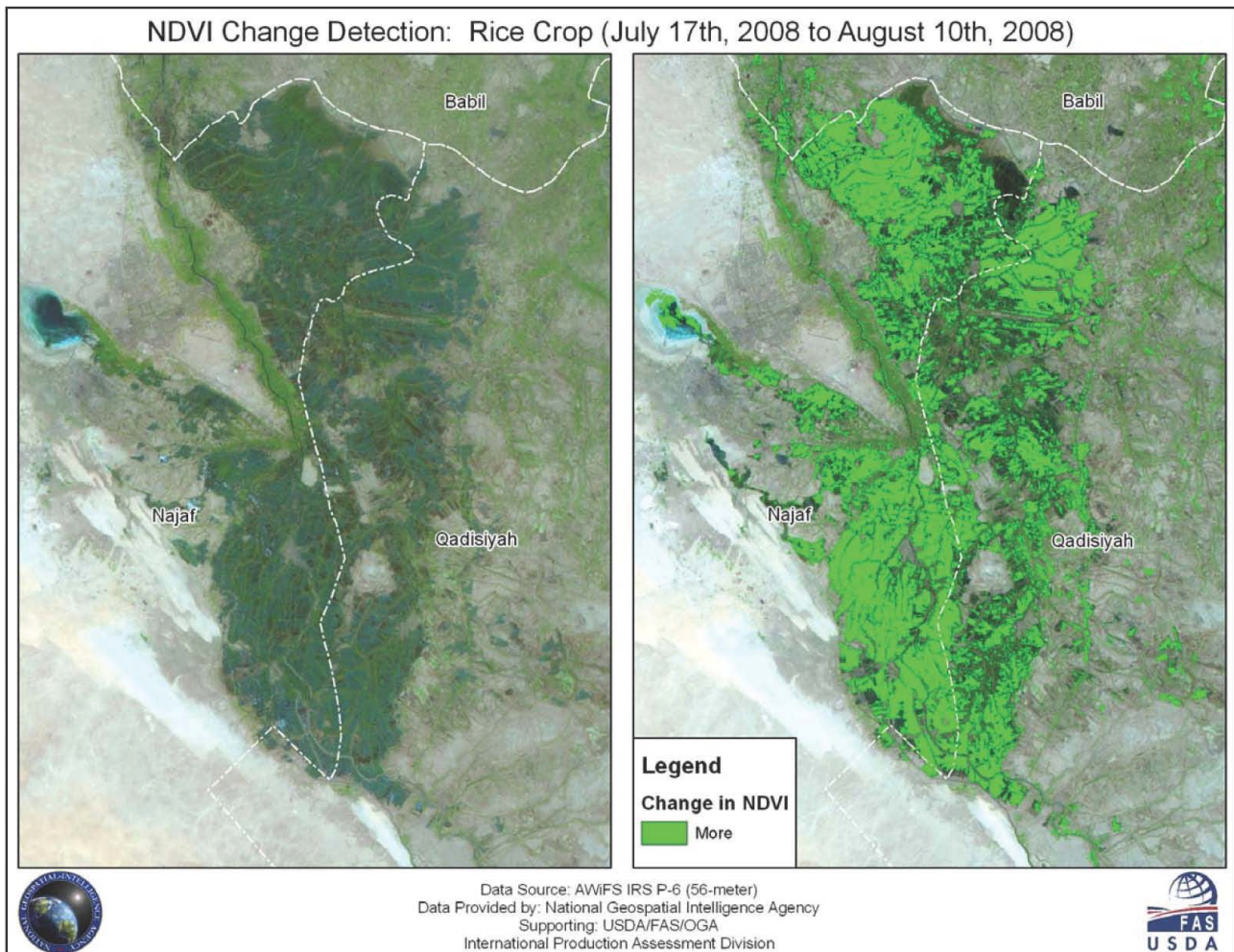


Figure 4: NDVI change detection mapped derived from AWiFS IRS P-6. Image highlights areas of significant change between two dates

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